



Large Alpine Baroque Altarpiece Statue - Holy Martyr In Gilded And Polychrome Carved Wood - T



3 800 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Painted wood

Width : 50 cm

Height : 115 cm

Description

A large, freestanding sculpture of a crowned martyred saint, carved from wood, gilded with gold leaf, and polychromed. The figure stands in a lively and elegant pose, her head slightly inclined towards heaven in an expression imbued with spirituality, characteristic of Baroque religious statuary. The flowing robe with its deeply carved folds is enhanced with rich gilding and light polychromy, typical of Central European art. The sculpture features a crown of a martyred princess, an attribute frequently associated with noble saints such as Saint Catherine, Saint Dorothy, or Saint Barbara, often depicted in Baroque altarpieces from the Alpine regions. The right hand would once have held an attribute, now lost (a palm, a branch, or a symbol of martyrdom), making the precise identification

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of the saint uncertain. The back of the sculpture is hollowed out, a traditional technique used to lighten the piece and preserve the stability of the wood, confirming its likely use in an altarpiece or church altar. Through its style, the richness of its drapery, and its polychromy, this statue belongs to the tradition of Alpine religious sculpture (Tyrol - Bavaria - Austria) active in the 18th and early 19th centuries, produced by the workshops of sculptors who supplied the churches of this region with altarpieces. The white polychromy shows some old retouching but remains harmonious and well-preserved. The piece possesses a striking decorative presence and testifies to the skill of the Baroque sculpture workshops of Central Europe.